

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The present listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the subject patent application.

Claim 1 (currently amended): An apparatus for locating a failed disk drive in a plurality of disk drives on a removable disk array module having a backplane connector, said disk array module having been taken out of service, comprising in combination:

a host controller disposed on said disk array module for identifying a failed disk drive and for determining the location thereof on said disk array module;
a non-volatile memory device disposed on said disk array module for receiving the location of the failed disk drive from said host controller, and for recording same; and

a portable disk locator adapted for communicating with said non-volatile memory device, and for causing the location of the failed disk drive to be displayed, said portable disk locator having a processor for reading said non-volatile memory device, and a power supply for providing electrical energy to the components thereof.

Claim 2 (original): The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said portable disk locator comprises means for resetting said non-volatile memory device when the failed disk has been repaired or replaced.

Claim 3 (original): The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said portable disk locator device comprises a connector adapted for mating with the backplane connector of said removable disk array module, such that said portable disk location module is placed in electrical communication with said non-volatile memory device.

Claim 4 (currently amended): The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said portable disk locator device comprises ~~a power supply for providing electrical energy to the components thereof, a processor for reading said non-volatile memory device and~~ indicator devices disposed in a configuration similar to that of said disk drives on said disk array module, such that the location of a failed disk drive is displayed by activation of said indicator device corresponding to that disk drive.

Claim 5 (currently amended): The apparatus of claim 5 1, wherein said power supply comprises a battery power supply.

Claim 6 (previously presented): The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said disk array module comprises a plurality of indicator devices adapted to be activated by said portable disk locator, at least one indicator device of said plurality of indicator devices being disposed in the vicinity of each of said disk drives.

Claim 7 (currently amended): The apparatus of claim 6, wherein ~~said portable disk locator device comprises a power supply for providing electrical energy thereto and to said plurality of indicator devices, a processor for reading said non-volatile memory device, such that~~ the location of a failed disk drive is displayed by activation of said indicator device corresponding to that disk drive.

Claim 8 (canceled)

Claim 9 (previously presented): The apparatus of claim 7, wherein said portable disk locator device comprises a connector adapted for mating with the backplane connector of said removable disk array module, such that said at least one indicator device of said plurality of indicator devices disposed in the vicinity of each disk drive can receive electrical power.

Claim 10 (currently amended): An apparatus for locating a failed disk drive in a plurality of disk drives on a removable disk array module having a backplane connector, said disk array module having been taken out of service, comprising in combination:

means disposed on said disk array module for identifying a failed disk drive and for determining the location thereof on said disk array module;

means disposed on said disk array module for receiving the location of the failed disk drive from said means for identifying a failed disk drive, and for recording same; and

a portable disk locator adapted for communicating with said means for receiving and recording the location of a failed disk drive, and for causing the location of the failed disk drive to be displayed, said portable disk locator having a power supply for providing electrical energy thereto and to said means disposed on said disk array module for receiving and recording the location of the failed disk drive.

Claim 11 (original): The apparatus of claim 10, wherein said portable disk locator comprises means for resetting said means for recording the location of a failed disk drive when the failed disk has been repaired or replaced.

Claim 12 (original): The apparatus of claim 10, wherein said portable disk locator device comprises a connector adapted for mating with the backplane connector of said removable disk array module, such that said portable disk location module is placed in electrical communication with said means for recording the location of a failed disk drive.

Claim 13 (currently amended): The apparatus of claim 10, wherein said portable disk locator device comprises ~~a power supply for providing electrical energy to the components thereof,~~ means for reading said means for recording the location of a failed disk drive, and means for displaying the location of a failed disk drive.

Claim 14 (currently amended): The apparatus of claim ~~13~~ 10, wherein said power supply comprises a battery power supply.

Claim 15 (previously presented): The apparatus of claim 10, wherein said disk array module comprises a plurality of indicator devices adapted to be activated by said portable disk locator, at least one indicator device of said plurality of indicator devices being disposed in the vicinity of each of said disk drives.

Claim 16 (currently amended): The apparatus of claim 15, wherein said portable disk locator device comprises ~~a power supply for providing electrical energy thereto and to said plurality of indicator devices,~~ means for reading said means for recording the location of a failed disk drive, such that the location of a failed disk drive is displayed by activation of said indicator device corresponding to that disk drive.

Claim 17 (canceled)

Claim 18 (previously presented): The apparatus of claim 15, wherein said portable disk locator device comprises a connector adapted for mating with the backplane connector of said removable disk array module, such that said at least one indicator device of said plurality of indicator devices disposed in the vicinity of each disk drive can receive electrical power.